

Appl. No. 10/653,688
Response dated March 2, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 4, 2005

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to correct typographical errors.

Claims 1, 14, and 18 have been amended to correct typographical errors.

Applicant hereby elects the invention of Group I, claims 1-12 and 15-17, with traverse. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 18-20 should be included in Group I as both Groups I and III are drawn to a method of preparing an imidazolium salt. Applicant respectfully requests that claims 13 and 14 be examined at the same time as the rest of the claims, as doing so should require no substantial additional work on the part of the Patent Office but will save applicant the government fees for prosecuting and maintaining an additional patent.

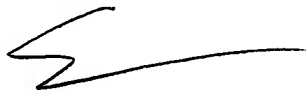
Applicant hereby elects the Species of claims 4 and 20.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for any extension of time necessary to render this paper timely.

Please charge any fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0694.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 20231, on 2 March, 2005.



Seth M. Nehrbass

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